

AMERICAN CITIZENS SERVICES NEWSLETTER

The U.S. Embassy is transmitting the following monthly newsletter via its warden system as a public service to U.S. citizens in Mongolia. Please feel free to disseminate this message to U.S. citizens in your organizations or to other Americans you know.



NEW APPOINTMENT SYSTEM FOR ROUTINE AMERICAN CITIZEN SERVICES

Starting on September 1, 2011, Embassy Ulaanbaatar, along with all other consular posts worldwide moved to an appointment system for routine consular services. Some of you have even had a chance to use it!

The [link](#) to the new appointment can be found on the Embassy's website under the U.S. Citizen Services tab. You will be able to choose the service(s) you need and choose a day convenient for you. Once you have completed the entering the required information, you will receive an Appointment Details page that you should print and bring with you to your appointment. The Appointment Details page also provides an appointment UID and password, in case you need to cancel or re-schedule your appointment. In preparation for your appointment, please check the Embassy website for the required forms, any other necessary items to bring with you and the fee for the service you are requesting. If you encounter any problems with the new appointment system please send an email to the Embassy at UlaanbaatarACS@state.gov.

Requiring appointments for all our non-emergency, routine services has enabled us to serve everyone more quickly and efficiently. Long lines and a busy waiting room are distant memories. Of course, we'll always take care of U.S. citizens with emergencies whether they have an appointment or not. Only routine American Citizen Services such as passport applications, requests for Consular Reports of Birth Abroad, and notarial services will require appointments. Clientele coming to report the arrest of an American in Mongolia, request assistance in locating a missing American or seek assistance regarding the death of an American overseas do not need an appointment and can come at anytime during public hours.

Our work hours remain the same – 1:00 to 3:00 pm every Monday and Thursday except Federal and Mongolian holidays.

WELCOME TO MONGOLIA, KATHLEEN!

Please join the Consular Section in welcoming our new Consular Associate, Kathleen Wagner, to Mongolia! Kathleen, her husband and two sons arrived in Ulaanbaatar on August 9th from Washington, DC. Kathleen served as a Consular Associate in Uganda for two years and has supported Embassies and Consulates worldwide for the past six years. She will serve in Mongolia for two years. Welcome, Kathleen!



Become a fan of **U.S. Embassy Ulaanbaatar, Consular Section** on Facebook.

Inside this issue:

New Appointment System for Routine American Citizen Services	1
Welcome to Mongolia, Kathleen	1
Consular Section Outreach	2
U.S. Embassy Marks the 10th Anniversary of 9/11	3
Early Presidential Primaries for Florida, New Hampshire, South Carolina Voters	3
Green Card (Diversity Visa) Lottery	4
Travel Warnings and Alerts	4
Upcoming Holidays	4
Embassy Contact Information	4

Consular Section Outreach

From Sept. 29 – Oct. 5 Vice Consul Alissa Bibb traveled with Ambassador Addleton to two of Mongolia's westernmost provinces – Bayan-Olgii and Uvs. It was a very busy trip, packed with meetings with government officials, journalists, NGOs, private Americans and Peace Corps Volunteers. Alissa also gave several outreach talks to Mongolian students about the process of applying for US visas and study and travel opportunities in the US. Besides that, they had a chance to see some of the amazing sights of those two provinces, including the Eagle Festival and petroglyphs in Bayan Olgii, and Uureg and Uvs lakes, as well as the Kharkhiraa Valley and some impressive ancient burial mounds in Uvs. Other highlights included a great dinner and company at a Turkish restaurant in Olgii with some resident Americans and an interesting tour of a Mongolian-Russian border post and crossing.

Also in September, Consul Phil Cargile traveled out to Sukhbaatar province, holding a variety of meetings and engaging in outreach. As winter sets in we will be doing less travel, but watch this space in the spring. We may be heading out to your area and would love to meet with you!



Ambassador Addleton with Peace Corps Volunteer, Leo O'Toole, in Tsaganuur soum, Bayan-Olgii.



Vice Consul, Alissa Bibb, talks to students in Bayan-Olgii about study abroad opportunities.



Students at Ulaangom College in Uvs listen to a talk on visas and study opportunities.

"The supreme treasure is knowledge, the middle treasure is children, and the lowest treasure is material wealth." -

Mongolian proverb

U.S. EMBASSY MARKS THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

The U.S. Embassy marked the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks with a simple ceremony at the embassy on September 9, 2011.

In addition to Ambassador Jonathan Addleton and his wife, Fiona Addleton, present at the event were the following: Admiral Robert Willard, Commander of Pacific Command, General James Hirai (ret.), Acting Director of the APSSC, General Bayarmagnai, the Deputy Chief of the General Staff and commander of the first Mongolian contingent to deploy in Iraq, Colonel Batjargal, the leader of the Mongolian Expeditionary Task Force that recently returned from Afghanistan, employees of the U.S. Embassy and Americans resident in Mongolia.

The event consisted of the playing of the national anthem, remarks by Ambassador Addleton, Admiral Willard, and General Bayarmagnai and a flag raising

and subsequent lowering to half staff in remembrance of the victims killed ten years ago, on September 11, 2001.



EARLY PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES FOR FLORIDA, NEW HAMPSHIRE, SOUTH CAROLINA VOTERS

Overseas voters should submit a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) **NOW** to ensure they have the opportunity to vote in the upcoming early Presidential Primary Elections:

- * New Hampshire: TBD*
- * South Carolina: January 21, 2012
- * Florida: January 31, 2012

American citizens residing outside the U.S. who are residents from these States should submit an FPCA for these elections by going to FVAP.gov or by following the instructions in the Voting Assistance Guide, also available at FVAP.gov. It only takes a few minutes!

Register to Vote and Request Your Ballot Now!

Many States allow you to vote only in the year your ballot request (FPCA) is received, but due to the early primary dates, these States have made an exception. These States allow you to submit your FPCA now in 2011 so that you receive your State ballot and return it in time to be counted for these primaries. *At this time, New Hampshire has not determined its Presidential Primary date. An FPCA received by New Hampshire Town or City Clerks on or after January of 2011 is valid through the 2012 Presidential Primary.

HOWEVER! To ensure you are eligible to vote in other 2012 elections, including the General Presidential election, you must submit an FPCA **AGAIN** in January of 2012!

Be sure you include a phone and/or email address on your absentee ballot application in case your local election official needs to contact you. And, remember, many States allow you to submit your form electronically, and deliver your ballot electronically or provide online ballot access. Go to FVAP.gov or your State's election website to see how you can return your form. You can find your State's website at FVAP's web portal: <http://www.fvap.gov/reference/links.html>.

To find out the status of your registration/absentee ballot request, contact your local election office at <http://www.fvap.gov/shortcuts/wheresendfpc.html>, or visit your State website.

The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) The FWAB is a backup ballot. If 30 days before the election you think you will not receive your State ballot in time to vote and return it, vote the FWAB! Go to FVAP.gov and get started! You may also submit the FWAB any time after submitting an FPCA.

GREEN CARD LOTTERY FOR US VISA OPENS OCTOBER 4, 2011

The U.S. Department of State started accepting applications for the 2013 Diversity Immigrant (**Green Card**) Lottery beginning **October 4, 2011**, and ending at noon EST on **November 5, 2011**. DV lottery entrants are strongly encouraged to apply early. No entries will be accepted after noon EST on November 5, 2011.

Winners are selected randomly, and **there is no fee to enter the lottery**. Winners are eligible to apply for a diversity visa which can be used to enter the U. S. and become a legal permanent resident (aka green card holder).

For more information on the diversity visa program, please visit www.dvlottery.state.gov, the dedicated webpage by the Department of State.

Entries to the DV lottery must be submitted online at www.dvlottery.state.gov. Lottery winners will be **notified by e-mail** not by regular mail. Starting May 1 2012, entrants may enter their DV2013 entry confirmation number into the Entry Status Check available at www.dvlottery.state.gov to find out whether

their entry was selected or not. Selectees who respond to the notification instructions on Entry Status Check will receive e-mail communications alerting them that a visa appointment has been scheduled.

Applicants may prepare and submit their own entries or have someone submit the entry for them. Regardless of whether an entry is submitted by the individual directly or assistance is provided by an attorney, friend, relative, etc., **only one entry may be submitted in the name of each individual.**

Applicants are reminded that they are responsible for all information submitted and that the information must be correct and complete. **Incomplete or incorrect applications will be void and will prevent the applicant from obtaining a visa even if his or her entry is chosen in the lottery.**

The DV Lottery is free and paying a broker will not improve an entry's chances of selection. Indeed, the use of an outside broker for help other than translation and data entry may result in the entrant's lifetime ban on entry into the United States.

For more information, please refer to the Embassy's website at <http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/greencard/>

Upcoming Holidays

November 11— Veterans Day

November 24—Thanksgiving Day

November 25—Constitution Day (Mong)

Embassy Contact Information

American Citizen Services
Embassy of the United States
11th Micro District
Big Ring Road
Ulaanbaatar 13, Mongolia
Tel: 976-11329-095
Fax: 976-11323-788
After-hours
or emergency number: 9911-4168
E-mail: UlaanbaatarACS@state.gov
- or -
American Embassy Ulaanbaatar
4410 Ulaan Baatar Place
Washington, DC, 20521-4410

Travel Warnings and Alerts

[India](#) 10/18/2011
[Congo](#) 10/13/2011
[Nigeria](#) 10/13/2011
[Lebanon](#) 10/12/2011
[Mauritania](#) 10/12/2011
[Worldwide](#) 10/11/2011
[Japan](#) 10/07/2011
[Tunisia](#) 10/05/2011
[Mali](#) 10/04/2011
[Worldwide](#) 10/01/2011
[Bhutan](#) 09/23/2011
[Nepal](#) 09/23/2011
[India](#) 09/23/2011
[Bahrain](#) 08/19/2011

For additional information about these travel warnings and alerts, please go to this site: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1766.html